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A. A. Alexander, Chairman . . . . . Oakland 1944  
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**Contributions—Length of Articles: Extra Costs.**—Original articles should not exceed three and one-half pages in length. Authors who wish articles of greater length printed must pay extra costs involved. Illustrations in excess of amount allowed by the Council are also extra.

**Leaflet Regarding Rules of Publication.**—CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE has prepared a leaflet explaining its rules regarding publication. This leaflet gives suggestions on the preparation of manuscripts and of illustrations. It is suggested that contributors to this Journal write to its office requesting a copy of this leaflet.

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## EDITORIALS†

### MEDICAL LEGISLATION

**Some Annual Session Proceedings.**—At the first meeting of the House of Delegates held in Del Monte, on May 4th last, several informal reports were made by chairmen of standing committees in which the imminence of prospective legislation, that might have important implications for medical standards and practice, was stressed. It is to be regretted that every member of the California Medical Association did not have the opportunity to hear the speakers.

In the next issue one of the talks, by the Association's Legal Counsel, Mr. Peart, will appear among the articles in the general section. In the July number will appear the minutes of the House of Delegates, and reference is directed to the discussions by the chairman of the Committee on Public Policy and Legislation, Dr. Dwight H. Murray, and the chairman of the Committee on Conference with the California State Federation of Labor, Doctor John W. Cline. The tenor of the comments by these and other speakers emphasized the importance of the need of alertness by members of the medical profession to changes concerning so-called social welfare and betterment, in which physicians have a direct interest.

\* \* \*

### Physicians Should Be Alert As Citizens.

It is important for medical men and women to remember that the maintenance of high standards of medical practice and service,—in unsettled times such as the present,—requires that every physician shall not only be a competent Doctor of Medicine, but that he and she shall be also high-class citizens. Meaning, thereby, that every physician shall take a real interest in trends of a political nature—national, state and local,—and so be on guard against activities that might lead to a breaking down of public health and medical practice standards that have been proven of real value in the past.

\* \* \*

**State Election in November.**—California will have a state election in November of the present year, and in August the primaries will be held. Have you given any thought to the legislative candidates whose names will appear

† Editorials on subjects of scientific and editorial interest, contributed by members of the California Medical Association, are printed in the Editorial Comment column which follows.

on the ballots in the primary election? Do you know aught concerning their general reactions to public health legislation? Officers of Component county societies and their committees on public policy and legislation have here a very special responsibility!

May the hope be expressed that every physician who is in position to contact incumbent and prospective legislators will do his part for organized and scientific medicine and the public health? A let-down in medical practice standards could pave the way for less efficient care of our soldiers who are in the armed forces. Attention by physicians to their civic responsibilities, therefore, becomes a patriotic as well as a professional obligation. Let us not be found wanting.

### NEXT ANNUAL SESSION

**When Program-Making Begins.**—Program and other plans for a succeeding year's annual session take on beginning form almost immediately after the concluding day of the convention of a current year. For the annual gathering to be held next year at Hotel Del Monte, the Council of the Association has authorized the Committee on Scientific Work to arrange programs somewhat in accord with the plan carried through for the 71st Annual Session, recently held. Should unforeseen complications arise in the meantime, the tentative arrangements will be changed.

The return to a larger number of general meetings has met with general approval. In May last, the general meetings were held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, and on Tuesday afternoon, and the attendance on each day was excellent. Members were able to outline their schedules in manner to permit visits at convenient times to scientific and technical exhibits and medical and surgical film presentations. The twelve scientific sections in the specialties accordingly arranged their work for Monday and Wednesday afternoons, the larger sections also presenting programs on Tuesday afternoon.

The value of the Sunday meetings has been referred to in previous issues, and will be increasingly evident during the duration, since conservation of the time of physicians cannot be disregarded. Members who have never attended meetings of the Sunday groups and activities may well refer to the "Program: By Days" in the April issue of the OFFICIAL JOURNAL (pages 177 and 195-196) and note how well the time may be spent. For those who prefer utter rest and relaxation, the Del Monte and Monterey Peninsula environment offer many facilities.

\* \* \*

**Next Year's Essayists Should Communicate with the Proper Section Officers.**—The names of officers of the twelve Scientific Sections appear in every issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE on adv. page 6. Every member who contemplates possible presentation of a paper at

next year's annual session should refer to this list, and at an early day write to the proper Section Secretary in regard to the prospective paper. Section officers and the C. M. A. Committee on Scientific Work will appreciate such coöperation. Concerning scientific exhibits and medical and surgical films, correspondence should be sent to the Association Secretary, who is in charge of these activities.

The joint meeting of the C. M. A. Committee on Scientific Work and the Section Secretaries will be held early in the Fall. It will make for the presentation of high-standard programs in 1943, if members of the Association who are in position to take part in the meetings, will communicate in the meantime with the proper officers.

### CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE: PRINTING OFFICE

**Why Printing Office Was Changed.**—After investigation last year, the Council learned that a considerable money-saving in printing expense of the CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE could be made, if the OFFICIAL JOURNAL would be brought off the press in Los Angeles. Accordingly in January last, the change in printing office was made. Under the new arrangement, the June issue will complete Volume 56.

The task of transfer concerning printing arrangements has not been easy, but the hope is expressed that readers will feel that CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE is again taking on its former typographical appearance and format. The new printers have been fully coöperative.

Owing to the late date on which the transcription of the minutes of the House of Delegates was received, it is not possible to have them appear in the June number.

### EDITORIAL COMMENT†

#### "MASKED CARCINOGENIC VIRUS"

It is currently reported by Kidd<sup>1</sup> of the Rockefeller Institute that "masked" V<sub>2</sub> papilloma virus is able to multiply in the bodies of virus-immune rabbits, a seeming paradox with suggestive bearings on the therapy of numerous other virus diseases.

About ten years ago it was shown by Shope<sup>2</sup> that the horny cutaneous growths, common to the wild cottontail rabbits of the Middle West, are due to a filterable virus. The disease is readily transferred to domestic rabbits by rubbing papilloma extract (or filtrate) into slightly scarified

† This department of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE presents editorial comments by contributing members on items of medical progress, science and practice, and on topics from recent medical books or journals. An invitation is extended to all members of the California Medical Association to submit brief editorial discussions suitable for publication in this department. No presentation should be over five hundred words in length.